

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
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-----141331Z 062592 /44

O P 141223Z JUN 77  
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AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY  
CINCPAC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 6108

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PK  
SUBJECT: SITREP: POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS AND ANTI-AMERICAN  
CAMPAIGN CONTINUE

1. PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO AND PNA LEADER MUFTI MAHMUD  
TALKED TO THE PRESS ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS  
AFTER THE JUNE 13 SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING BETWEEN THE PNA  
AND THE GOVERNMENT. THE PM TOLD THE REPORTERS THAT  
NEGOTIATIONS HAD REACHED A CRUCIAL STAGE AND THAT THE TALKS  
MIGHT END WITHIN THE NEXT TWO DAYS. MUFTI MAHMUD SAID THAT  
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MANY OF THE DIFFICULTIES HAD BEEN REMOVED BUT SOME REMAINED  
AND ADDED THAT HE WAS NOT OVERLY OPTIMISTIC.  
2. SPECULATION AS TO THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES STILL  
CENTERS ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THERE WILL BE AN  
INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND, IF SO, WHAT WILL BE ITS COMPOSITION.  
ANOTHER UNRESOLVED ISSUE, ACCORDING TO JOURNALISTIC  
SOURCES, IS THE PNA DEMAND THAT NEW RANKING PROVINCIAL

OFFICIALS (E.G. GOVERNORS, POLICE INSPECTORS GENERAL, CHIEF SECRETARIES) BE APPOINTED BEFORE THE ELECTIONS AND THAT ALL APPOINTEES MUST HAVE JOINT GOVERNMENT/PNA APPROVAL. THE JUNE 13 ISSUE OF JANG REPORTS THAT THE RELEASE OF HANIF RAMAY AND CHAUDRY ZAHOR ILAHI, TWO PROMINENT PUNJABI OPPOSITION LEADERS IMPRISONED SINCE BEFORE THE ELECTIONS, HAS ALSO BEEN AGREED ON BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PNA.

3. MUSAWAT, THE URDU DAILY AND PPP OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER WHICH HAS PM'S WIFE AS PUBLISHER, CARRIED A LONG SCATHINGLY ANTI-MAERICAN EDITORIAL IN ITS JUNE 14 EDITION WHICH CONTINUES THE GOP'S EFFORTS TO TIE ASGHAR KHAN TO THE US. THE EDITORIAL ALLEGES THAT ASGHAR KHAN HAD MET WITH US OFFICIALS PRIOR TO THE MARCH 7 ELECTION AS WELL AS SUPPOSEDLY MEETING AN AMERICAN DIPLOMAT FROM KABUL IN PESHAWAR ON JUNE 7. THE EDITORIAL CLAIMED THAT KHAN, JUST BEFORE THE MARCH 7 ELECTION, HAD MET WITH "A SENIOR US DIPLOMAT IN KARACHI" WHO HAD COME TO PAKISTAN FROM A SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRY SPECIFICALLY TO MEET THE AIR MARSHAL. THE REPORT ADDS THAT THE DIPLOMAT TOLD ASGHAR KHAN THAT THE PNA HAD THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE US DURING THE ELECTION. (WE HAVE NO INFORMATION WHICH INDICATES SUCH A MEETING EVER TOOK PLACE.)

4. THE MUSAWAT EDITORIAL GOES ON TO SAY THAT AZIZ AHMED OFFERED TO SHOW PROOF OF US INTERFERENCE TO SECRETARY VANCE AT THEIR PARIS MEETING BUT THAT VANCE "HAD NO COURAGE TO LOOK AT THE EVIDENCE." THE EDITORIAL ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE US CONSPIRACY AGAINST PAKISTAN IS CONFIDENTIAL

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CONTINUING.

5. BHUTTO'S PPP, STRIVING TO MEND ITS POLITICAL FENCES AND STRENGTHEN ITS ORGANIZATION, PROBABLY IN PREPARATION FOR NEW ELECTIONS OR A REFERENDUM, WILL HOLD A DISTRICT-WIDE CONVENTION IN LAHORE ON JUNE 18. THE MEETING MAY BE ATTENDED BY UP TO 5,000 PPP WORKERS AND WILL DISCUSS THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY AS WELL AS INTERNAL ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS. NAWA-I-WAQT REPORTS THAT PPP CONVENTIONS WILL ALSO BE HELD IN QUETTA, MULTAN, PESHAWAR AND KARACHI DURING THE NEXT MONTH.

6. THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED PAKISTAN TIMES ON JUNE 14 FRONT-PAGED A STORY THAT AN UNNAMED RIGHT-WING POLITICAL PARTY LEADER IN PAKISTAN HAD RECEIVED A BANK DRAFT IN MARCH FROM P.V. GEORGE (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED) FOR OVER RS. 1,000,000 (APPROXIMATELY \$100,000). THE DRAFT WAS ALLEGEDLY SENT FROM A MIDDLE EASTERN CAPITAL. THE PPP OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER, MUSAWAT, CARRIED A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DRAFT

ON THE FRONT PAGE OF ITS JUNE 14 EDITION. THE BANK  
DRAFT WAS MADE OUT TO MAULANA MAUDOODI, THE LEADER OF THE  
JAMAAT-ISLAMI PARTY AND A PROMINENT OPPOSITION LEADER.  
THE IMPLICATION OF THE ARTICLE IS THAT THIS PURPORTED  
TRANSFER IS FURTHER PROOF OF US SUPPORT FOR THE OPPOSITION.  
CONSTABLE

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## Message Attributes

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